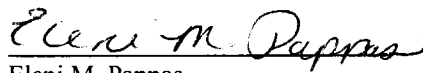


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SCHWARTZ Confirmation No.: 1470
Serial No.: 10/598,223 Group Art Unit: 3774
Filed: August 22, 2006 Examiner: LEVINE, Joshua H.
Title: ARTICULAR CARTILAGE FIXATION DEVICE AND METHOD

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to
Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia
22313-1450, on December 14, 2009.


Eleni M. Pappas

Date of Signature: December 14, 2009

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir or Madam:

Introductory Comments

This Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Response to Office Action is being filed in response to a final Office Action mailed on August 18, 2009 for the above-referenced application. Since this Request and Response are being filed on or before December 18, 2008, this Response includes a petition for one-month extension of time to file and the requisite fee. The RCE fee is also submitted herewith. Thus, this Response is timely filed.

Amendments to the Specification appear on page 2 of this paper. **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.